

States. The smaller form, or true *hyperboreus*, breeds along the arctic coast, from northern Alaska eastward for an undetermined distance, but at least to the mouth of the McKenzie river; and throughout this extent of coast-line, and thence southward over the whole western portion of the continent, entirely replaces the larger bird.

As to the distinctive characters of the two races, I would remark that, while the length of the wing is by no means decisive (the maximum of *hyperboreus* being about 17.50 inches, and the minimum of *nivalis* 17.00!), *nivalis* always has a much larger bill, the culmen in adults of this form measuring from 2.50 to 2.65, and the length of the bill from tip to point of the basal angles, 3.00 to 3.12, the corresponding measurements of *hyperboreus* being only 1.95 to 2.28 and 2.50, or less, to 2.75.

REMARKS ON THE TYPE SPECIMENS OF MUSCICAPA
FULVIFRONS, GIRAUD, AND MITREPHORUS PALLES-
CENS, COUES.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

(Read March 8, 1884.)

In the "Nomenclature of North American Birds" (p. 32, Nos. 329 and 329a), I have included, as two races of one species, an "*Empidonax fulvifrons* (Giraud) Scl.," and an *E. fulvifrons pallescens* Coues." This I did under the impression, based upon previous examination of the type specimens, that they were in reality sufficiently distinct to justify subspecific separation. Having recently had the matter brought to mind in another connection, I have re-examined the types in question, together with other material, and have thereby come to the following conclusions: (1) that *E. pallescens* is a decidedly smaller, lighter, or grayer colored western race, restricted to the western side of the Rocky Mountains, in Arizona and New Mexico, and probably portions of western Mexico also, although I have not seen specimens from

south of the United States boundary; (2) that *E. fulvifrons* proper belongs to the country on the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains, the National Museum possessing the original type specimen, stated by Giraud to have come from Texas; (3) that in southern Mexico a third race exists, which agrees with *pallescens* in smaller size, but differs in decidedly deeper, richer coloration. The latter is the *Empidonax rubicundus* CAB. (Mus. Hein., ii, p. 70), but, being unquestionably conspecific with *E. fulvifrons*, should, in accordance with more modern usage, be called *E. fulvifrons rubicundus* (Cab.). We have, therefore, three geographical races of this species: the typical *fulvifrons* (Gir.) of "Texas" (and probably northeastern Mexico also), the *E. fulvifrons rubicundus* (Cab.) of southern Mexico, and *E. fulvifrons pallescens* (Coues) of southern Arizona and western New Mexico, and, probably, western Mexico.

I subjoin measurements of the adult specimens now before me, including two (from El Moro, New Mexico) which have the plumage much abraded.

a. *E. fulvifrons* (Giraud).

			Wing.	Tail.	Culmen.	Tarsus.	Mid. toe.
47691	—ad.	"Texas" -----	2.70	2.45	.35	.21	.60*

* Type of the species.

b. *E. fulvifrons pallescens* (Coues).

40601	♂ ad.	Ft. Whipple, Ariz. -----	2.20	1.95	.35	.20	.52*
40602	♂	" " -----	2.25	2.00	.37	.22	.51†
-----	♂	Apache, Ariz. -----	2.40	2.10	.37	.20	.55
68603	♂	El Moro, New Mex. -----	2.45	2.10	.38	.20	.60
68604	♂	" " -----	2.40	2.15	.35	.21	.55

* Type of *Mitrephorus pallescens* Coues.

† *Ibid.*

c. *E. fulvifrons rubicundus* (Cab).

32914	♂ad.	"Mexique" -----	2.35	1.90	.37	.20	.52
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It may be seen from the above measurements that there is much variation in dimensions in *E. fulvifrons pallescens*, from which we may reasonably infer that the same would be the case in the other races were an equal number of specimens measured. The coloration, however, is very uniform, none of the specimens of *pallescens* (and there are several young birds which are not measured) showing any approach to either *fulvifrons* or *rubicundus*.*

True *E. fulvifrons* is of a peculiar shade of dull ochraceous-buff beneath, the throat and belly slightly paler, but not at all inclining to white; the upper parts are light dull brown, very slightly darker and duller on the pileum and lighter on the rump. *E. pallescens* is light yellowish ochraceous on the breast and sides, with the throat and belly inclining to yellowish white, and the upper parts are decidedly grayer than in *fulvifrons*. *E. rubicundus* is bright ochraceous beneath, the belly light creamy yellow, the throat buffy whitish, and the upper parts decidedly fulvous-brown.

NOTE REGARDING THE EARLIEST NAME FOR CARPODACUS HÆMORRHOUS (WAGLER).

By ROBERT RIDGWAY.

(Read March 8, 1884.)

A reference to plate 386 of Buffon's "Planches Enluminures" shows that figure 1 depicted thereon is intended to represent an adult male of the Mexican House Finch in abnormal plumage, or having the usual red color replaced by yellow—a variation not

* An additional series from New Mexico and Arizona, which, through the courtesy of Mr. H. W. Henshaw, I have recently been permitted to examine, fully confirms the validity of *pallescens*, none of the twelve specimens showing a nearer approach to *fulvifrons* than is exhibited by the specimens previously inspected.